



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
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September 26, 2011

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Paul Galbenski, 2011-2012 Michigan Teacher of the Year

SUBJECT: Teacher of the Year Report

**Entrepreneurship Education in Michigan**

This past month I continued to meet with Patty Cantu, Director of Career and Technical Education (CTE), along with Denise Teague, CTE Curriculum Consultant for Marketing/Entrepreneurship/Health/Hospitality and Tourism, and members of business and industry to continue our discussion regarding the teaching of entrepreneurship along with setting the guideposts for future expansion of the "entrepreneurial mindset" for all of our students within CTE. In early October, we will meet with Superintendent Flanagan and his team to share our thoughts and strategies to create a greater awareness and support of entrepreneurship education for our students throughout Michigan. Our discussion will also include the delivery of professional development for teachers as it relates to entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial thinking. As we all know, timing is everything and I believe that the time is right for Michigan to be a leader and a model in the delivery of entrepreneurship education!

**DELC Conference**

In early October I was very fortunate to be asked to attend the Digital Education Leadership Conversation (DELC) Conference with Bruce Umpstead, State Director of Education Technology and Data Coordination. My attendance for this conference was arranged by Barb Fardell, MDE Education Technology Manager. The focus of the conference was to allow education leaders to meet with their like-minded peers and focus on the key questions and most significant issues facing education related to K-12 technology. Topics discussed at the conference included: Digital Teaching and Professional Development, Mobile Learning and Security, The Education Dashboard and The Alternative Classroom. Being able to attend these conferences

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is truly a blessing in terms of my personal professional development. I always enjoy the opportunity to learn what is going on in other parts of the country as we all deal with technology and how to best utilize it to improve student achievement.

### **On Campus at OSTC-SE**

In late September, I had the opportunity to speak at our Counselor Contact Meeting. These meetings are hosted monthly at the Oakland Schools Technical Campus Southeast for our sending schools to have their counselors in our building to receive updates regarding the students they send to our campus for academics and career and technical education training. The focus of my presentation was on technology along with sharing my experiences thus far as Michigan Teacher of the Year. Our Counselor Contact Meetings provide a great venue for communication with our sending schools. We all know that communication between schools and parents is paramount in providing appropriate placement of students in our programs as well as communicating the wonderful educational opportunities students have at their disposal at the technical campus.

Part of my duties as the Business, Management, Marketing and Technology (BMMT) Teacher Leader Cluster Facilitator, is to provide updates to the Oakland Schools Board of Education on the status of our program. This year we have the opportunity not only to host the Oakland Schools Board of Education meeting at our campus, but also to share with the Board of Education data related to student achievement. This data will include the number of core, technical, and national certifications earned by our students; the number of academic credits earned, as well as direct college credits earned over the past three years. We also will be sharing with the board the program of study initiatives that we are currently finalizing with our local colleges and universities.

### **Community Service Project**

On Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, over 100 coaches were in attendance at the Knights Basketball Coaching Academy hosted at Bloomfield Hills Andover High School. We had a wide range of coaches who attended the clinic. They included AAU Coaches, CYO Coaches, Youth League Coaches, High School and College Coaches as well. The purpose of the event was two-fold. Our first goal was to provide professional development for coaches to increase their basketball knowledge and teaching techniques, and the second was to raise money for Coaches vs. Cancer. I can proudly say that we raised over \$1,000.00 from this event that was donated toward cancer research. Over the past three years the Knights Basketball Coaching Academy has been able to donate over \$3,000.00 to Coaches vs. Cancer.

### **As MTOY**

Late last month I attended an Educator Evaluation and Tenure Laws Conference hosted at Oakland Schools. The purpose of this conference was to provide information as it relates to the background of the Educator Evaluation Reform Legislation and recent amendments to the Teachers' Tenure Act. The final area of

the conference focused on data reporting requirements to the Center for Educational Performance and Evaluation (CEPI). This conference was very informative for me along with my Oakland Schools team that has been working since last spring to finalize our Teacher Evaluation Instrument to meet the requirements of the new legislation.

At the "2011 CTE Teacher Academy" hosted in Lansing on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, I had the privilege of providing the keynote address to over 100 Career and Technical educators. It was a wonderful experience to spend the day with them and collectively share how we are changing the lives of students through CTE. The agenda included a facilitated discussion of the National Direction of CTE along with workshops on Turning Standards into Curriculum. We all enjoyed the session on CTE Website Resources. This was my first time attending this conference and it was a fantastic day being engaged and working with my fellow CTE educators.